

# PugetSoundPartnership

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## 2010 Science Panel Appointment Process Agenda Item #01

**Presented by:** Martha Kongsgaard and Tammy Owings

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**Proposed Action:** Preparation for November Appointments

### **Background:**

- The Leadership Council is responsible appointing Science Panel members
- The process for initial Science Panel appointments was specified by statute (See table 1)
- The process for subsequent Science Panel appointments was approved by the Leadership Council in September 2009
- In September 2009 the Council also decided to increase the number of Panel members adding one new member in 2009 and another in 2010, for a total of 11
- Three Science Panel members' terms expire on November 10, 2010; all are willing to continue for another term

### **Process, Roles and Timeline:**

1. Appointment/reappointment philosophy: Reappointments are not automatic. Members interested in reappointments (within the 12-yr. limit) may reapply and be considered as part of the pool of all applicants.
2. Role of Washington State Academy of Sciences (WSAS): endorse qualified scientists from applications received.
3. Role of Science Panel: provide the Leadership Council recommendations regarding expertise and selection/evaluation criteria.

### *Assignments*

**Staff** – lead process, solicit applications, assist in development of the evaluation criteria, be part of the evaluation subcommittee, and develop meeting materials for both the Council and Panel as needed

**Academy** – Endorse applicants regarding scientific qualifications

**LC Subcommittee** – review and rate the applications

**Leadership Council** – appointment of candidates

### *Timeline & Leadership Council Schedule*

September 16 - Leadership Council – reviews process and initiates 2010 solicitation

September 20 – solicitation posted

October 18 – Applications due

October 18-29 – WSAS reviews applicants for scientific qualifications

October 29 – WSAS provides applicant endorsements  
November 1-5 – LC Subcommittee evaluates and rates applications  
Week of November 8 – Leadership Council members receive materials for prospective members for review  
November 19 – Leadership Council make 2010 Science Panel appointments  
December 14-15 – Science Panel recognition of outgoing members; first meeting of new members

### **Science Panel Feedback for Leadership Council Consideration:**

Three PSP Science Panel members' terms expire in November 2010. All three members are willing to serve an additional term. While the Panel understands that the final decision on Science Panel appointments belongs to the Leadership Council, we would like to recommend that John Stark, Timothy Quinn and Katharine Wellman be considered for reappointment. We feel that the current Science Panel is working well as a team and that an additional year of consistency is important.

Given a review of the Panel's matrix of desired skills we also feel that the Science Panel would be considerably strengthened and more effective with the addition of a social scientist (anthropology, sociology, psychology) with marine experience. In addition, we would like the Leadership Council to consider gaps in current Science Panel membership including tribal, local government, private sector, and NGO representation.

The 2009 criteria for Science Panel membership is included below, and the Panel sees no need to make changes at this time. We appreciate your consideration.

### **Criteria for Science Panel**

Each member **must meet** the criteria:

1. Knowledge, recognized expertise and achievement in a relevant discipline, which could include but is not limited to natural sciences – such as terrestrial and marine ecology, wildlife biology, genetics, toxicology, fisheries, hydrology, oceanography, climate sciences, river geomorphology, epidemiology; social sciences – such as land use planning, resource economics, anthropology, sociology, psychology, institutional analysis; and engineering.
2. A demonstrated ability to work effectively in an interdisciplinary team setting.
3. Strong communication skills.
4. Clear understanding of the distinction between policy decisions and the scientific analyses/conclusions that can be used to guide policy decisions.
5. Objectivity, flexibility and independent thinking.
6. Hold a scientist or management position with recent hands-on research experience.

Each member **should have** experience in one or both of the following:

1. A record of scientific achievement documented by contributions to peer-reviewed literature or other evidence of success in creative scientific endeavor.
2. Experience in ecosystem modeling, risk assessment, decision support, social marketing or other application of science and engineering in support of ecosystem recovery.
3. A demonstrated ability to inform policy-makers so they are able to forge creative solutions to complex management problems.

## Science Panel Statutory Requirements

Table 1

<b>90.71.270</b>	<b>Requires</b>
(1)	To provide independent, nonrepresentational scientific advise to the council and expertise in identifying environmental indicators and benchmarks for incorporation into the Action Agenda
(2)	In establishing the panel, the council shall request the Washington Academy of Sciences to nominate 15 scientists with recognized expertise in fields of science essential to the recovery of PS
(2)	Nominees should reflect the full range of scientific and engineering disciplines involved in PS recovery
(2)	At a minimum, the WAS shall consider making nominations from scientists associated with federal, state, and local agencies, tribes, the business and environmental communities, members of the K-12, college, and university communities, and members of the board
(2)	Solicitation should be to all sectors, and candidates may be from all public and private sectors
(2)	Persons nominated by the WAS must disclose any potential conflicts of interest, and any financial relationship with any LC member, and disclose sources of current financial support and contracts relating to PS recovery
(3)	Panel members shall serve four-year terms, except the council shall determine initial terms of two, three, and four years to provide for staggered terms
(3)	The Council shall determine reappointments and select replacements or additional members of the panel

## Current Panel Make-up

Table 2

Panel Member	Current Term Ends (11/10)	Years on Panel as of Nov 10	Discipline	Expertise	Association
Joel Baker	2011	3	Environmental chemist and engineering scientist	Modeling contaminant transport in natural waters	University
Joe Gaydos	2013	1	Biologist and veterinarian	Health and diseases of wildlife populations	NGO
Bob Johnston	2013	3	Biological oceanography	Environmental and systems modeling and marine biogeochemistry and toxicology	Federal
Bill Labiosa	2013	1	Environmental engineer	Watershed/ecosystems management decision analysis and decision support	Federal
Tom Leschine	2013	1	Mathematician and Ocean policy	Policy analysis and marine environmental decision-making, widely known for work on the application of risk and decision analysis and other analytic techniques to environmental problem-solving	University
Jan Newton	2011	3	Oceanographer	Management of research projects and marine and terrestrial research and modeling	University
John Stark	<b>2010</b>	3	Entomology & pesticide toxicology	Pesticide exposure and toxicity and hazard assessment	University
Tim Quinn	<b>2010</b>	3	Wildlife ecology & chemistry	Vertebrate ecology, sampling design, and adaptive management	State
Usha Varanasi	2011	3	Organic chemistry	Habitat conservation	Federal
Trina Wellman	<b>2010</b>	3	Natural resource economics and marine policy	Economic assessment and environmental impacts of estuary and ocean conservation and management planning	Business